MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST CONTINUATION SHEET U.S. 301 SOUTH CORRIDOR TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Property Name: James Christmas House Survey No.: P.G.:82A-8 (PACS A121)

| Property Address 7201 Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro vicinity, Prince George's County | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Owner Name/Address Richard and Marian Bolton / 7201 Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772 | |
| Year Built_1897 | _ |

Description:

The James Christmas House was previously surveyed by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission in 1974 and by the Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission in 1985. There has been no change to the property since the prior survey. The exterior of the house is currently being painted. On the property is a trailer and barn. The trailer is located to the west of the house and is covered with vertical wood siding. The barn is in a deteriorated condition. Located at the west end of the property, the barn has a front-gable metal-covered roof, vertical wood siding and is covered by vegetation.

National Register Evaluation:

The James Christmas House is eligible for the National Register of Histic Places under Criterion C, as a good example of a dwelling with Queen Anne features. The house is a visual landmark along Crain Highway and posseses character-defining features such as a hipped roof with multiple gables and an assymetrical wrap-around porch with chamfered posts. The original windows, porch detail and tower posses excellent integrity of form and materials.

The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. Finally, the structure has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The National Register boundaries of the James Christmas House follow the current property lines of its tax parcel (Tax Map 110, Lot/Block #P5). This 4.08 hectare (10.08 acre) parcel is bounded on the north and west by adjacent tax parcels, on the south by Crain Highway and on the east by Old Crain Highway. The boundary includes the house, a trailer, barn and circular driveway. According to deed research, the property was originally part of a 62.32 hectare (154 acre) parcel which was reduced in acreage to 4.48 hectares (11.07 acres) in 1955. It is approximately the same size today. The boundary includes the contributing house and barn and the non-contributing trailer.

| MHT CONCURRENCE: Eligibility X recommended not recommended Criteria A B X C D Considerations A Comments: | BCDEF | GNone |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Suzanne Pickens 07/21/1997 Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date | Reviewer, NR programo | 7 21 9 7 Date |

Preparer: P.A.C. Spero & Company September 1996 - AND

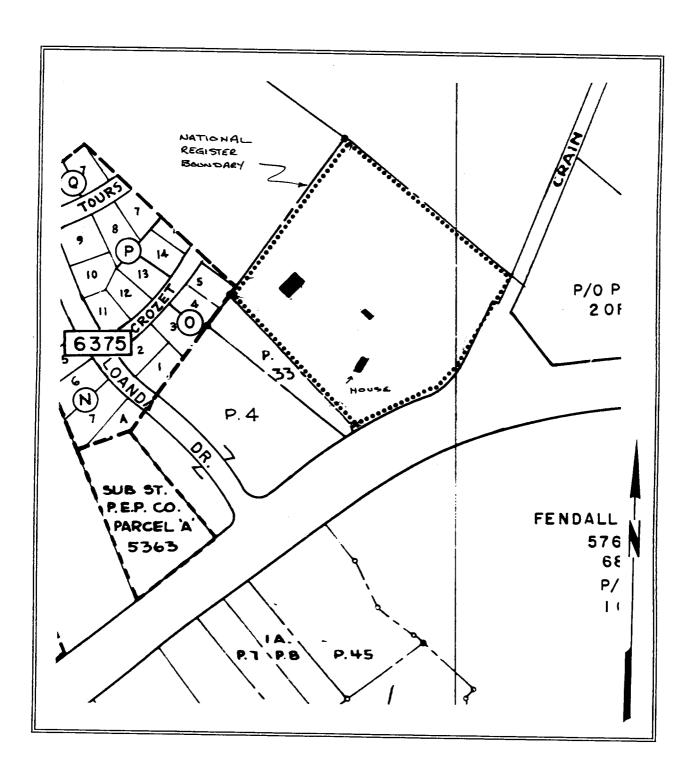
Property Name: James Christmas House Survey No.: P.G.:82A-8 (PACS A121)

Property Address 7201 Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro vicinity, Prince George's County

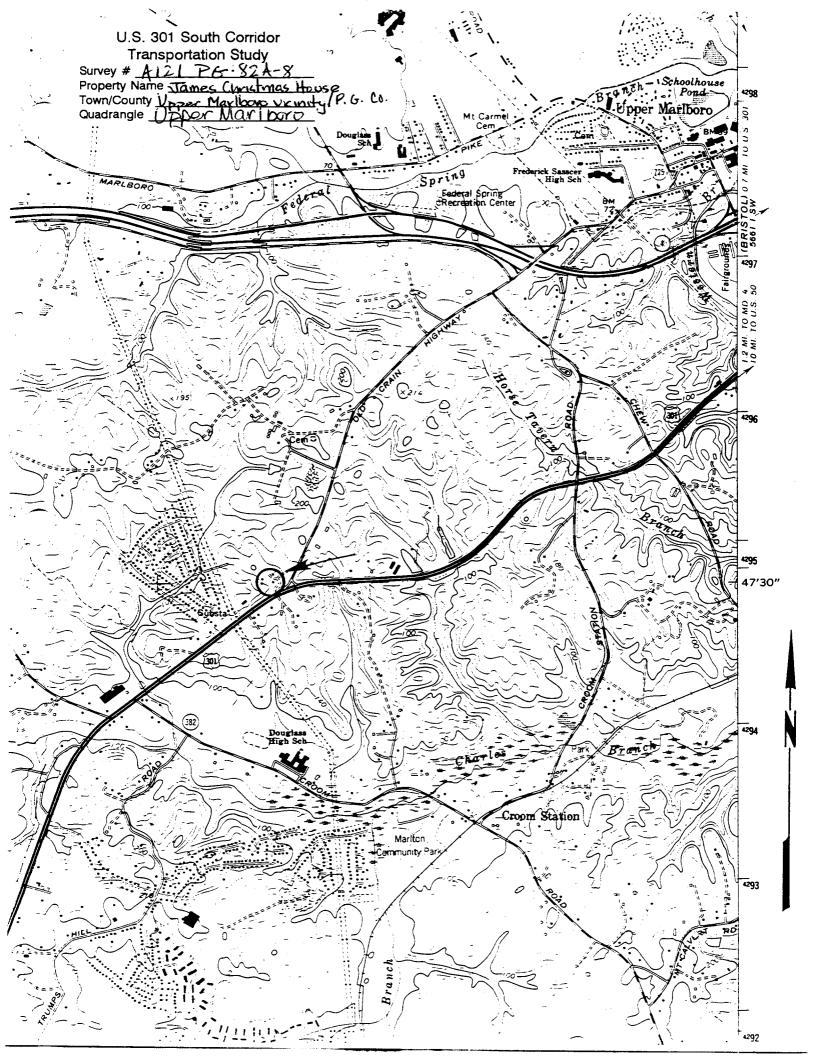
Owner Name/Address Richard and Marian Bolton / 7201 Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

Year Built 1897

Resource Sketch Map and National Register Boundary Map:



Preparer:
P.A.C. Spero & Company
September 1996









PG:82A-8







PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

| Survey #: _P.G. #82A-8 | Building Date: | ca. 1897 |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| Ruilding Name: <u>James Christmas Ho</u> | ouse | |
| Location: 7201 Crain Highway, Upp | er Marlboro, Maryla | nd |
| Private/Residence/O | Occupied/Good/Inacce | ssible |

The James Christmas house is a large (ca. 40' by 44') Victorian two-and-

one-half-story frame dwelling house with Queen Anne decorative elements. is prominently located on high ground northwest of and overlooking the intersection of Old Crain Highway and U.S. Route 301, south of Upper Marlboro. The principal three-bay facade faces roughly south, sheltered by a one-story porch. Entrance into the principal (south) facade is in the central bay, through a handsome set of seven-panel double doors surmounted by a two-pane transom and crown molding. The first bay of this south facade is filled by a two-story semi-octagonal projecting bay; the third bay is filled with a two-story rectangular projecting bay. The west elevation is also highlighted by a central set of double-doors; it has single-pane sidelights. South of the central doorway is a three-story semi-octagonal tower, decorated at third level with alternating courses of rectangular shingles and hexagonal shingles; it has a pyramidal roof. The building has a hipped roof; built into the west, south and east planes of the roof at third level are pedimented dormers. There are four tall corbelled brick chimneys, located asymmetrically in the east, north, and west planes of the roof. The house is covered with German siding painted white. The roof is covered with green asphalt shingles; the foundations are of brick. There is a twentieth century barn at the rear of the property.

Significance:

The Christmas House is a very fine and prominent example of late Victorian rural domestic architecture with Oueen Anne details. It was built by James M. Christmas, ca. 1897, on part of a tract of land called Greenland which had earlier been the home farm of the Leonard Taylor family. James Miller Christmas (1870-1939) came to Maryland ca. 1890, and began a sawmill operation and lumber business in the Croom area. In 1892 he purchased 154 acres of Greenland and in 1895 married Mary Margaret Duvall of Trumps Hill near Croom. Within two years of his marriage he completed construction of his handsome and imposing house at the highest point near the public road into Upper Marlboro. Christmas sold his house and farm in 1914, since which time the house has had several owners. For a short period after World War II, it served as a small private dining room, operated by the owner/resident. The house is unusual for its large size, and exhibits fine details especially in the treatment of doors and windows, bay and tower. It is a prominent landmark on the highway south of Marlboro.

Acreage: 10 acres

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

| 1. Na | me | (indicate pr | eferred name) | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| historic | James | Christmas house | | | |
| and/or commo | on | | | | |
| 2. Loc | cati | ion | | | |
| street & numb | ber | 7201 Crain High | way (U.S. Route 301) |) | not for publication |
| city, town | Upper | Marlboro | vicinity of | congressional district | |
| | Maryla | | county | Prince George's | 5 |
| 3. Cla | ssi | fication | | | |
| Category district building(s structure site object | s) X Pul | mership public private both blic Acquisition in process being considered not applicable | Status occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted xes | Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military | museum park X private residence religious scientific transportation other: |
| <u>4. Ow</u> | ner | of Proper | 'ty (give names and | d mailing address | es of <u>all</u> owners) |
| name Mr. & | Mrs. | Richard Bolton | | | |
| street & numbe | 720° | l Crain Highway | | telephone r | no.: 627-3062 |
| city, town | Upper | Marlboro, | state a | nd zip code MD. | 20772 |
| 5. Loc | ati | on of Lega | l Descriptio | _ | |
| | | | e George's County Co | | |
| street & numbe | | Main Street | s acorge 3 country co | urthouse | liber 5487 |
| city, town Up | per M | larīboro, | | | folio 471 |
| | | | n Existing B | state | Maryland 20772 |
| | | ty Inventory of | | listorical Surv | veys |
| 197 | | ey inventory of | mistoric Sites | | |
| iale | | | | federal stat | te X county loca |
| epository for s | | | ry Division, M-NCPPC | | |
| ity, town | verda | | | state | MD. 20737 |

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. 82A-8

| Condition excellentX good fair | deteriorated ruins unexposed | Check one unaltered _X_ altered | Check one original site moved date o | f move | |
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| | | | | | |

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The James Christmas house is a large (ca. 40' by 44') Victorian two-and-one-half-story frame dwelling house with Queen Anne decorative elements. It is prominently located on high ground northwest of and overlooking the intersection of Old Crain Highway and U.S. Route 301, south of Upper Marlboro. The principal three-bay facade faces roughly south, towards Route 301. It is sheltered by a one-story porch, resting on brick piers and supported by chamfered posts, which wraps around three-quarters of the east facade.

Entrance into the principal (south) facade is in the central bay, through a handsome set of seven-panel double doors surmounted by a two-pane transom and crown molding. The first bay of this south facade is filled by a two-story semi-oxagonal projecting bay; it has narrow 1/1 windows on the angled sides, a 2/2 window on the front, and a pyramidal roof. The third bay of the south facade is filled with a two-story rectangular projecting bay, with 2/2 windows and a gable roof.

Like the main facade, the west elevation is also highlighted by a central set of double-doors; it has single-pane sidelights. South of the central doorway is a three-story semi-octagonal tower, with narrow 1/1 windows in the angled sides and 2/2 windows in the front. This tower is decorated at third level with alternating courses of rectangular shingles and hexagonal shingles; it has a pyramidal roof.

The building has a hipped roof; built into the west, south and east planes of the roof at third level are pedimented dormers with double 2/2 windows. All three dormers are embellished with a decorative vertical groove between the windows (as are all the double windows in the house); the south dormer is decorated with hexagonal shingles in the pediment. There are four tall corbelled brick chimneys, located asymmetrically in the east, north, and west planes of the roof.

| 8. 5 | ign | ificance | Survey No. P.G. #82A-8 | | |
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| Specific | | ca. 1897 | Builder/Architect | | <u> </u> |
| check: | ar Appli | cable Criteria: _A id/or cable Exception: _A of Significance: | | FG | |
| Prepare support | both | | of significance and a c | | of history and |
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| | was dinclu | small private dining livided in the 1950's; ding the house and tw | ouse and farm in 1914, For a short period after room, operated by the in 1962 the present of wo barns, one of which e restoration work on | er World War II, i owner/resident. owners purchased l | it served The land |
| | ac oa i | is especially III tile | s unusual for its larg treatment of doors and on the highway south | d windows how and | oits fine I tower. |
| | Notes | | | | |
| | 1 p. | G. County Deed HB #12 | :6. | | |
| | 2 _P . | G. County Deed JWB #2 County Marriage licen | 3:316, P.G. County Tax ses; Sister Geiger, <u>Da</u> | Assessments 1890 | 's. 1979, pp. |

 $^3\,$ Interview with present owner and telephone interview with former owner, March 1985; cf. chain of title.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #82A-8

cf. Notes Item #8
cf. Chain of Title

| 10. Ge | ographical Data | | |
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| Acreage of nomir Quadrangle nam UTM References | nated property 10 acres (TM1) - Upper Marlboro, Section of the document of th | | Quadrangle scale |
| A Zone Eastin | ng Northing | BZone | e Easting Northing |
| C | | D | |
| Verbal bounda | ry description and justification | | |
| List all states | and counties for properties overla | pping state o | county boundaries |
| state | code | county | code |
| state | code | county | code |
| 11. For | m Prepared By | | |
| name/title Susa | n G. Pearl/Shirley Baltz | | |
| | Historic Preservation Commi | ssion | March 1985 |
| organization | O-water Dlamping Division | M NCDDC | uate |
| organization street & number | County Planning Division, County Administration Bldg | M-NCPPC | 952-3521 telephone |

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438

7 (Continued)

The house is covered with German siding painted white. All windows (excepting the side windows of the semi-octagonal bay and tower) are 2/2; all have plain board surrounds surmounted by a crown molding with cyma recta profile. The roof of the house, which originally was covered with wooden shingles, is now covered with new green asphalt shingles. The foundations are of brick.

The house originally had no basement, but rested on a heavy hand-hewn sill, probably reused material. A small basement area has been dug out under the north central area of the house to house the mechanical plant; from this cellar space are visible the circular-sawn joists which support the first story floorboards.

The interior is in the plan of a cross, with two wide (ca. 15 feet) hallways crossing in the center of the house. The living space is made up of four corner rooms on first and second stories. There is a formal two-flight staircase in the west side hallway.

A short distance to the north of the house is a well with a new brick superstructure and canopy roof. At the north edge of the property, ca. 400 feet to the rear of the house, is a twentieth century tobacco barn. An older barn, located closer to the house, has been removed.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

| 11. | NAME COMMON: | ······································ | en e | and the second second second | | |
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| | AND/OR HISTORIC: | | | | | |
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| 2. | LOCATION | | | | | |
| | STREET AND NUMBER: | | | | <u> </u> | |
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| | CITY OR TOWN: | awlh and | | | | |
| | STATE OPPEL M | arlboro | | | | |
| | Marylan | ď | | COUNTY: | | |
| 3. | CLASSIFICATION | • | | Prin | ce George's | |
| | CATEGORY | 1 | | | T | T |
| | (Check One) | | OWNERSHIP | | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE |
| | District Building | ☐ Public | Public Acquisiti | on: | Occupied | Yes: |
| | ☐ Site ☐ Structure | Privote | ☐ In Proc | | Unoccupied | Restricted |
| | ☐ Object | ☐ Both | Being (| Considered | Preservation work | Unrestricted |
| | | | | | in progress | No No |
| | PRESENT USE (Check One or M | ore se Appropriate) | | | L | L |
| | | |] Park | | Transportation | Comments |
| | Commercial Ind | ustrial g | Privote Resider | | Other (Specify) | Comments |
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| 4. | OWNER OF PROPERTY | | | , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , | | |
| | OWNER'S NAME: | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | | |
| | KICHARD | A. Bolton | | | | |
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| | CITY OR TOWN: | ain Highwa | У | STATE | | |
| | Upper Ma | arlboro | | | ·13 | |
| 5. 1 | LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCR | | | Mary | /land | |
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| | Prince (| George's C | ounty Cou | rthouse | | |
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The house is a two story, frame building with a three-bay, main (east) facade and a high hipped roof. The north bay is a two-story, bay window with a gable roof; the south bay is an octagonal corner tower. On the south facade there is a three-story tower with a pyramidal roof; the third story is sheathed with patterned shingles. There are dormer windows on the east and north slopes of the roof.

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Chain of Title

James Christmas House PG #82A-8

| #5487:471 22 Dec 1981 Deed | Lucille B. Woodson to Richard A. & Marian L. Bolton; grantor's one-third undivided interest in 10.083 acres in Melwood E.D.; same which grantor acquired by #3536:165. |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| #3536:165 20 Nov 1967 Deed | Eugene E. Pitrof, trustee, to Richard A. & Marian L. Bolton (two-thirds undivided interest) and Lucille B. Woodson (one-third undivided interest); 11.07 acres as described by County surveyor on August 30, 1955; same which grantor acquired by #3536:163. |
| #3536:163 18 Nov 1967 Deed | Richard A. & Marian L. Bolton (one-half undivided interest) and Lucille B. Woodson (one-half undivided interest) to Eugene E. Pitrof, trustee for the purpose of reconveying; 11.07 acres in Melwood E.D.; same which grantor acquired August 1962 from C.E. & S.M. Smith. |
| #2713:369 7 Aug 1962 Deed | Carl Edward Smith, the surviving joint tenant of Henry Pope Smith and Shirley M. Smith to Richard A. & Marian L. Bolton (one-half undivided interest) and Lucille B. Woodson (one-half undivided interest), as tenants in common; 11.07 acres in Melwood E.D.; same which grantors acquired by #1914:321. |
| #1914:321 30 Sep 1955 Deed | R. Bowie Clagett to Carl Edward Smith and Henry Pope Smith, joint tenants with right of survivorship; 11.07 acres as described by County surveyor 30 August 1955, subject to prior conveyance to M.S.R.C. recorded #1079:407. |
| #1914:317 30 Sep 1955 Deed | Henry Pope and Willie Lee (f) Smith to R. Bowie Clagett; 11.07 acres as described by County surveyor on 30 August 1955. |
| #786:399 4 May 1945 Deed | Norman E. and Mary Shipley Ryan to Henry P. Smith; 142.4 acres of Greenland; same which grantor acquired by #515:53. |
| #515:53 25 Jan 1939 Deed | Leo F. Corcoran to Norman E. Ryan; 142.4 acres of Greenland (except 1-1/4 acres conveyed by #497:408; same which grantor acquired by #98:175. |

#98:175 23 Jan 1914 Deed James M. Christmas to Leo F. Corcoran; 154 acres called Greenland, lying in Marlboro E.D., "being the same property upon which James M. Christmas now resides"; same which grantor acquired by JWB#23:316.

JWB#23:316 7 Nov 1892 Deed

Charles Clagett and Samuel B. Hance to James M. Christmas, highest bidder at public auction; 154-1/4 acres called Greenland, lying in Marlboro E.D.; default in mortgage grantors held by HB#12:7.

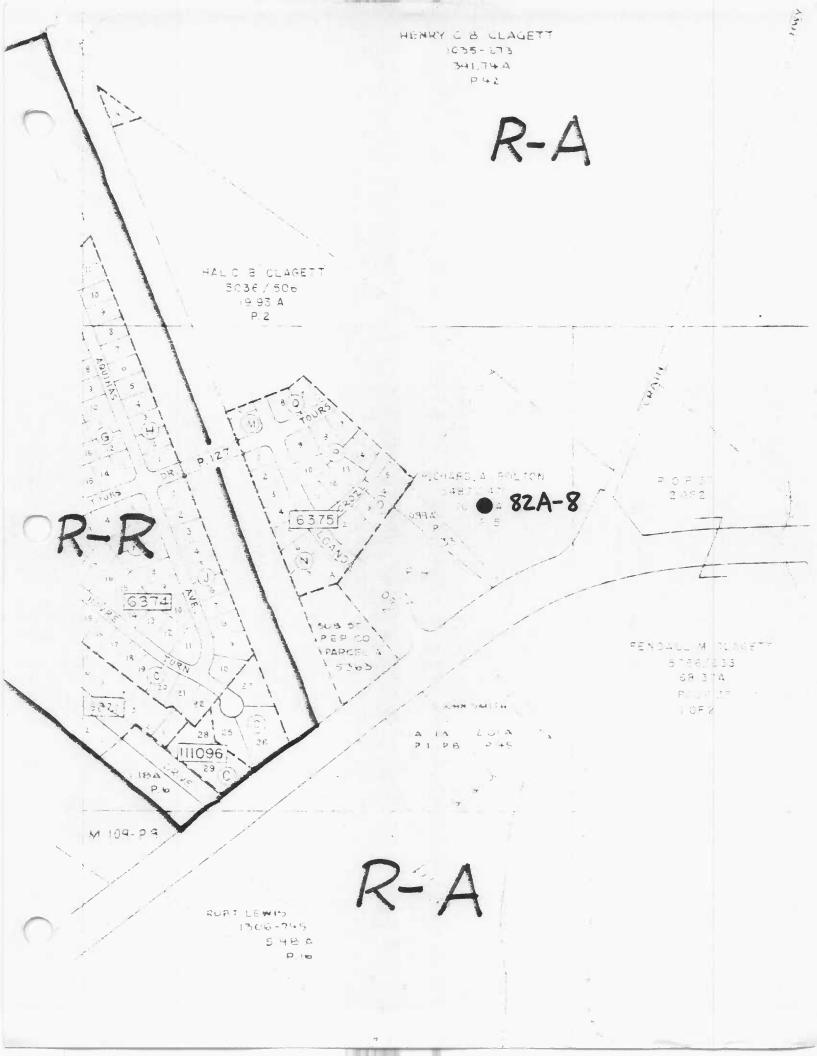
#1988 25 Aug 1892 Equity Charles Clagett and Samuel B. Hance brought suit against Leonard and Jane Rebecca Taylor; Taylors had defaulted on mortgage given to complainants by HB#12:7; court ordered public sale of 154 acres called Greenland.

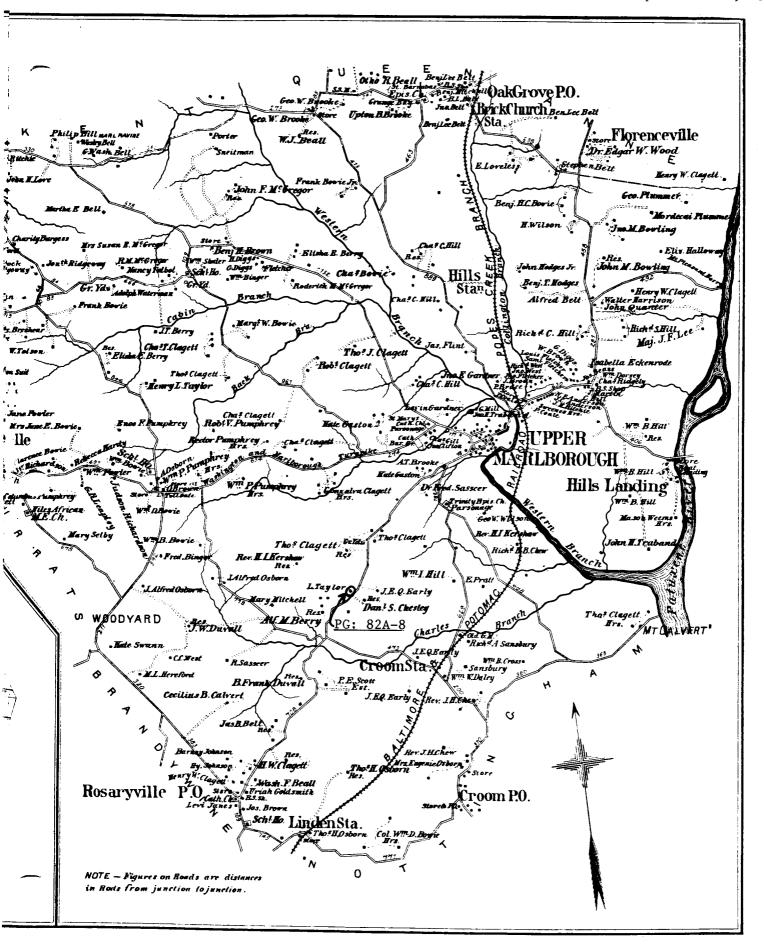
HB#12:7 19 Dec 1876 Mortgage

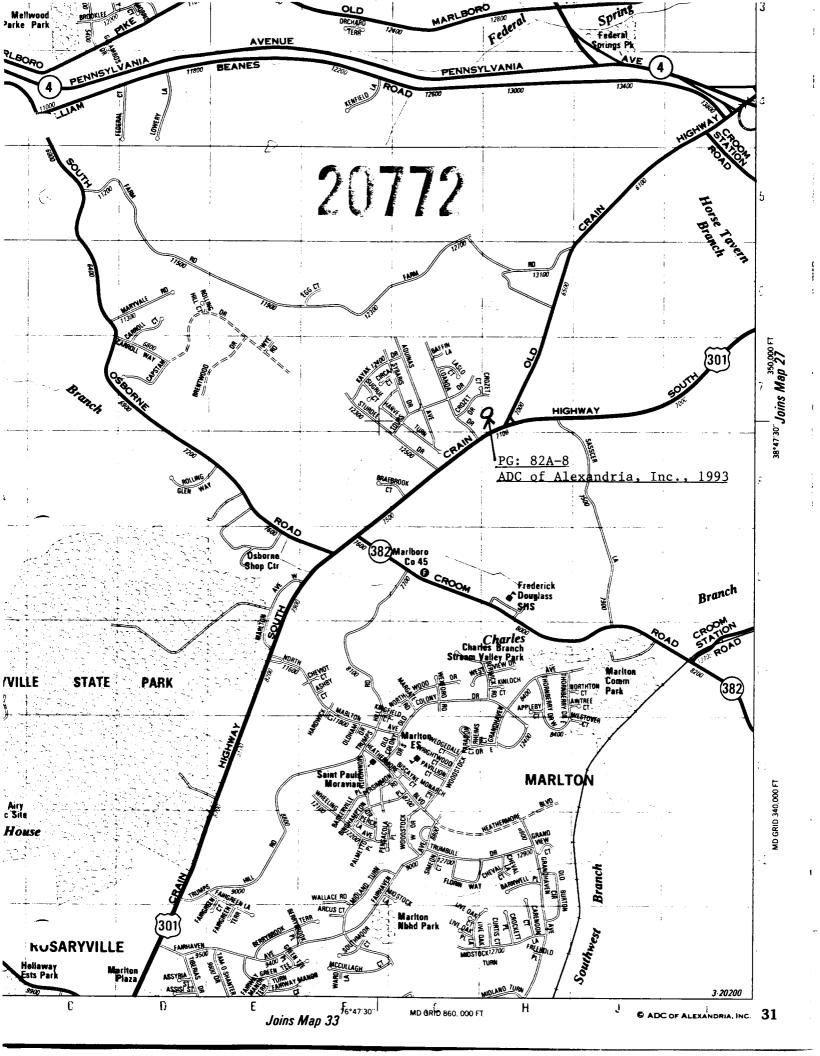
Leonard and Jane Rebecca Taylor to Charles Clagett and Samuel B. Hance; mortgage on 154-1/4 acres called Gree and, lying in Marlboro E.D.; same which grantors acquired by HB#12:6.

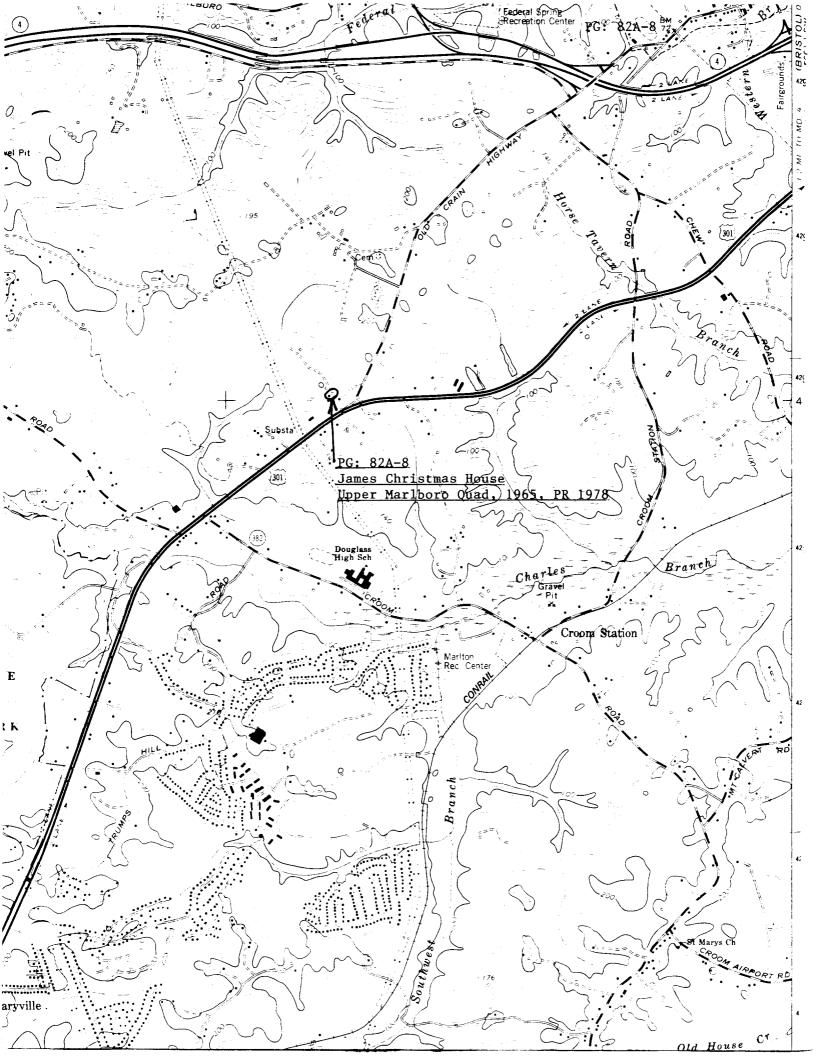
HB#12:6 19 Dec 1876 Deed

Charles and Mary Clagett and Samuel B. Hance to Leonard A. Taylor; 154-1/4 acres, part of Greenland; same which grantors acquired by HB#12:5.











James Christmas House

Prince George's County, MD.

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.

Susan G. Pearl

Southeast 3/4 elevation

March 1985



James Christmas House

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.

Susan G. Pearl March 1985 North elevation

Prince George's County, MD.



James Christmas House Prince George's County, MD. Susan G. Pearl

P.G. #82A-8

March 1985 West elevation Neg; Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



James Christmas House

Susan G. Pearl March 1985 South elevation

Prince George's County, MD.

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



James Christmas House Prince George's County, MD. Susan G. Pearl March 1985 Southwest elevation Neg; Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



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NAME #82A-8 TAYLOR HOUSE?

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